

RP to deport 2 American brothers linked to al-Qaida

Hope springs eternal for Filipinos, poll shows

HCRC is one thing Filipinos still have in abundance.

Many persons of Filipino said last month they would vote the new law with hope, rather than fear, according to the Social Weather Stations.

This figure is slightly lower than the 95 percent who expressed hope in the fourth quarter of 2002 for the coming year 2003.

REPORTER

www.inquirer.com.ph

Wednesday, December 21, 2002 + 38 pages / vol. 19 / no. 22

www.inquirer.com.ph

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

PMP warns policemen: Fire and you'll be fired

By Christian V. Saguena, Nelson S. Flores and Marjorie C. Ortiz

THE 1987 good bangcours from hitting their pots and pans and not from deadly firecrackers.

The Philippine National Police yesterday appealed to the public not to let fire crackers, firecrackers and bangcours get in the way of a safe New Year celebration.

REPORTER

GMA offers aid to purge victims

PHILIPPINE Massaged Arroyo has offered help to families of the victims of the anti-inflation campaign of the Commission on the Philippines in their search for the remains of their loved ones.

"We are prepared to use the forensic facilities and expertise of the government to search for and identify victims and the circumstances of their deaths, for instance, we already have facilities for DNA testing," the President said after the program ended up with a three-part special report on the program.

"I was prepared to discuss these matters with the families and to do all I can to give them justice," the Massaged said in a statement sent to the program.

Hundreds of families and supporters of the CPP filed a series of anti-inflation campaign against suspected government agents that the party conducted between 1982 and 1986. Many of these were buried in unmarked graves and have yet to be found. Some accused the program as "Operation Missing Link."

REPORTER

Bro. Eddie defies GMA, files candidacy



By Tereza Ordoña and Carmela Reyes
PMP Chief of Legal Draft
Martha S. Flores
and Marjorie C. Ortiz

HE CALLED it a "prophetic gesture to redress the Philippines." Others are bound to see it as defiance of Malacanang.

Bro. Eddie Villanueva filed his certificate of candidacy for the highest position in the land yesterday, defying his right as a religious leader to get involved in politics at this time when drug lords, gambling lords, smuggling lords and crime lords are running for the presidency.

There is no turning back, he said, shaking the hopes of both

administration and opposition parties which allegedly "want to keep" him from doing his job and join the group.

Villanueva, who filed his proclamation as "religious, economic and ecological," declared he would devote his efforts to be the other or "contradictory" meaning state. He did not say who made the offer, but added that "communist" were also present in the crowd.

Only the other night, he said, President Arroyo's "communist friends" had asked him to be her running mate. He could not say if this was before or after the fact of Castro's statement he was accepting the offer.

A number in politics, Villanueva said, he would leave the ruling

REPORTER

PHOTOGRAPHED Bro. Eddie Villanueva yesterday during a political rally at the National State University in Manila, Tuesday, to file his certificate of candidacy for president.

Roco taps an Aquino for his running mate

VP bet, backers, analysts surprised

By Dona Z. Pua Reyes

PRESIDENTIAL candidate Rod Roco yesterday pulled a surprise on everyone with his choice of a running mate.

But some measures surprised those who followed him.

At the last minute, Roco picked as his vice-presidential pick "Rocero" Aquino to be his running mate under the Alyson of Reyes. Aquino, 54, is a uncle of the late Sen. Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino.

The only agreed in Roco's personal presidential running, also was before he and Roco wrote in their certificate of candidacy (CCC).

While well known in Manila, Aquino is not a national political figure like the other members of the Aquino clan.

Teaching of Roco's father, Sen. Benigno Aquino Sr., who is in Manila, said that it was possible that the Roco camp was still on the look out for a vice-presidential candidate.

"They might still be looking for a viable vice-presidential candidate," Villanueva said.

Roco announced his choice of not being a member at the moment in June 2002 at the moment, and his vice-presidential pick matched to the Commission on Elections with hundreds of supporters.

The Alyson of Reyes created CCCs yesterday were former to former General Frank Chavez, former head of the National Food Authority chief John Arana, and former National Police chief Gen. Romeo Arana. Villanueva said he would file his certificate on Jan. 3 after taking the mandatory drug test. He has no income and he would file his income tax return.

REPORTER

Palace hails De Castro for 'big sacrifice'

MANILA—The president yesterday praised Sen. Rod De Castro for his "big sacrifice" in deciding to become President Massaged Arroyo's running mate in the 2004 elections.

"[He] is making a big sacrifice in accepting the vice-presidential slot. He's every day in the mean watches it continuously in terms of professional competence and political insight," the Massaged said in a statement.

Her spokeswoman, Spokesperson Roco said the sacrifice she was referring to was the Castro's decision to abandon his presidential ambitions despite being a consistent supporter in public settings.

However, Roco said, this did not mean that the President was afraid of being De Castro at the polls. The decision was "totally accepted," he said.

The "sacrifice" of De Castro, a former news anchor of ABS-CBN who is widely known as "Balagtas," has triggered speculation that he was given a substantial amount of money — between

REPORTER



PRESIDENTIAL candidate Rod Roco and his running mate the national anthem at the moment to national news, just before he and Roco wrote in their certificate of candidacy for president.

It's ABS-CBN vs ABS-CBN in vice presidential race

By Carlos Pablo and Christine O. Amador

THE BETS are on for ABS-CBN vs ABS-CBN.

And Sen. Rod De Castro, a first runner in the 2004 race for the vice presidency who has agreed to be President Massaged Arroyo's running mate, is not looking in his back.

He, with his Villanueva (Luzon, Bulacan), for one, is convinced that De Castro will choose Sen. Loren Legarda, his fellow co-candidate in the media network and former news anchor, likely winning more of the network's votes.

Villanueva yesterday said all surveys indicated that the Coe was winning the field.

REPORTER

2 US brods linked to al-Qaida

By Akshay Papp

IMMIGRATION officials yesterday said they would deport two American brothers who had been arrested for suspected links to local terrorists and for allegedly meeting with charity groups believed to be al-Qaida fronts in the country.

Officials of the Bureau of Immigration and Intelligence agency of the Philippine Navy and Philippine Marine Corps arrested Michael Ray Struble, 50, and his brother James, 54, accused to be, for alleged violation of immigration laws on Dec. 13 in Manila, Cebu.

The brothers denied any wrongdoing when they appeared at a news conference in Manila and flew to Abu Dhabi at Navy headquarters in Manila.

The news conference was



NAVY guards escort Michael Ray and James Struble for presentation to the media in Manila. Government agents arrested the two brothers on Dec. 13 for suspected links to terrorist groups.

REPORTER



RP ready to assume seat at UN Security Council

By Jerome Jasing

THE PHILIPPINE mission to the United Nations yesterday expressed readiness to assume its duties when the country officially becomes one of the 10 non-permanent members of the UN Security Council during its term.

"We appreciate understanding with confidence and optimism," Ambassador Lito C. Raj Jr., the country's permanent representative to the UN, said. "We understand, the President has promised full support to the Philippines."

Raj said members of the Philippine delegation to the Council are prepared for the

added responsibilities that come with being a member of the most important decision-making organ of the United Nations.

Now that the Philippines has been placed in "the chosen status" of the UN and in the international community, the country's delegation "is ready to pursue with greater vigor and determination Philippine foreign policy objectives and support Philippine values to the Security Council," Raj said.

"We will also take the opportunity to express our solidarity to the United Nations and to promote the Philippines as a global nation," he said.

The Security Council is made

up of the most important policy-making body in the UN because it is the only organ whose decisions are enforceable and binding among UN member countries.

The Philippines, along with Algeria, Brazil, India and Jamaica, was formally elected as a non-permanent member of the Council by the UN General Assembly in Octo-

ber. The five countries will occupy the two-year term as far as one of the original non-permanent members—Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, China and Syria.

The UN Security Council has five permanent members—United States, China, Russia, France and the United Kingdom, which are collectively known as the "P5."



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4 winners per draw




50 winners per draw



50 winners per draw

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Featured artists

R.E.M.

Includes the hit singles:
Man on the Moon
What's The Frequency, Kenneth?
Losing My Religion
Orange Crush
Stand
Everybody Hurts
Plus 2 new singles:
"Bad Day" and "Animal"







WARNER MUSIC
PHILIPPINES

Government Warning:
Cigarette smoking is dangerous to your health.

NBA ROUNDPUP

Blazers subdue Nets, score 1st win on road

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J.—Portland Trail Blazers scored 16 points in the first half to help the Portland Trail Blazers win their first road game this season, a 91-87 victory over the New Jersey Nets on Monday.

Portland had dropped to its first road game in four years, but the team bounced back to win its first road game in four years.

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PORTLAND's Ruben Patterson (left) goes after the loose ball as New Jersey's Ramon Rousey plays to apply pressure. The Blazers beat the Nets, 91-87.

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SPORTSWATCH

President's Award for lady eaglers

U.S. National Women's Golf Association (UWGA) announced that it has selected a winner for the 19th annual President's Award for lady eaglers.

The award is presented annually to the top female golfer in the United States who is a member of the U.S. Women's Golf Association (UWGA) and who has won a U.S. Women's Open or a U.S. Women's Amateur Championship.

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1 losing NFL coaches fired

After a 1-15 season, the coaching staffs of the New York Jets and the New York Giants were fired by their respective owners.

P4M up for grabs at Religion

A \$100 million prize of P4M Entertainment is up for grabs by the winners of the Religion magazine's "100 Most Powerful People" contest.

Cagayan boxer still comatose

A boxer who was injured in a fight in Cagayan, Philippines, remains in a coma in a hospital.

Petrova top seed in Canberra meet

Alexandra Petrova is the top seed in the Canberra tennis tournament.

Yancy traded . . .

Yancy was traded to the New York Jets from the New York Giants.

Baguio City all set to host Rotary tilt; P4M at stake

OFFICIALS of the Rotary Golfing & Country Club, Inc. (RGCC) are set to host a P4M tournament in Baguio City.

The 19th annual of the RGCC is sponsored by Cebu Pacific, Cebuana Lhuansa, Philippine Airlines, and the Philippine Golfing & Country Club, Inc.

The event will be held in Baguio City, Philippines, and will feature a P4M tournament.

There will be a prize pool of P4M, and the winner will receive a share of the prize.

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Kobe

By [Name]

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Will they continue cheating Manny Pacquiao in 2004?

THE BIGGEST story for the Philippines in 2003 came in the sports pages.

Manny Pacquiao's announced marriage to the former Miss Universe, Elizabeth Vargas, is expected to be a major story in 2004.

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PLDT plans 3rd call center unit, eyes British customers

By Miguel A. Roa

The 50% advantage of the cost and benefit of the third center under the plan is the key to PLDT's Long Distance Telephone Co. will open up third call center within the first half of 2005.

PLDT, which has a 90% share in the country's largest telecommunications company, said its new call center would likely be opening by the end of the first quarter of the year of the second quarter next year.

"We are in a call center, we're trying to get customers from the United Kingdom," PLDT's chairman, Juan P. Ochoa, said. "We're actually adding with this, but the business just got in the new line is looking at setting it up in Hong Kong because we already have a center there," he said.

Trade and industry has been promoting the Philippines as a BPO hub to the region for companies in North America and parts of Europe.

"We're trying to get a third for BPO. The BPO market here is not fully established, except for the BPO or on-line accounts. Proper training is getting started by BPO associations, Manobo.com."

The said calls were ongoing with two of the top five in the United Kingdom. But, wanted to set up a call center.

PLDT, planning additional investment for PLDT, due to get into BPO would set up the first call center unit for that country, which would be used for the first six months of the year. It posted a net income of P14 million in the second quarter of 2004.

Notably, which was its 12th year in the country, has been in the top five in the country in the telecommunications period, it generated revenue of P214 million and a net income of P14 million.

Napocor sells \$100M in bonds

By Christine S. Santos

THE CAPITAL MARKET National Power Corporation sold \$100 million in P2s in a 10-year private placement at a 6.5% yield, according to a P12.82 billion in foreign financing from the 2004.

Finance Secretary Amador Hernandez said that the investment firm had issued the bonds to the public to raise capital, finance and the bonds were sold to various institutional investors.

The selling company has set up to first up its funding requirements for the year but the government also said it could be used to fund the company's capital needs. The bonds will be used to fund the company's capital needs and to fund the company's capital needs.

The Energy Regulatory Commission had turned down the request of Napocor to increase its rate of return. The power company's ability to raise more funds would add about \$100 million to its requirements, according to a government source.

Hernandez said it would again for the bonds to be used to fund the company's capital needs.

The power firm would use proceeds of the bonds to fund its capital needs and to fund the company's capital needs.

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MC Center, a partner of the Philippine National Power Corporation, Neda and Tiwi, who are the owners of the company, are seen in a photo with other people.

Neda OKs additional work on Tiwi, Mak-Ban plants

By Rivaldo P. Domingo

THE PHILIPPINE National Power Corporation has approved to increase the capacity of the Tiwi and Mak-Ban plants, which are the country's largest and second largest power plants, respectively.

The company's board of directors has approved the plan to increase the capacity of the Tiwi and Mak-Ban plants, which are the country's largest and second largest power plants, respectively.

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ABS-CBN expects banner year in '04

AGENCIAPRESS marketing agency, which is the country's largest and second largest marketing agency, expects a banner year in 2004.

The agency's revenue is expected to increase by 10% in 2004, according to the company's management.

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Company	Revenue	Profit	Assets	Liabilities
PLDT	1,200,000,000	150,000,000	1,000,000,000	850,000,000
Napocor	800,000,000	100,000,000	700,000,000	600,000,000
ABS-CBN	500,000,000	50,000,000	400,000,000	350,000,000
MC Center	300,000,000	30,000,000	250,000,000	200,000,000
...

DISCLOSURES

PHILIPPINE National Power Corporation (PHILCORP) has disclosed that it is in the process of raising capital through the sale of bonds.

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Stocks end 2003 up 42%

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For feedback, call us at (02) 855-5511 or (02) 855-5512

Editor Chela Bernal-Fernandez
Chief of Correspondence Pam Packer

Rewind

Before we say goodbye to 2003, let's take another look at the year that was—the songs that had us humming, the people who had us talking, the sports moments that had us cheering, the tech discoveries that had us drooling, the events that had us partying, the trends that had us running (to the mall, that is).



We also have the results of the 26U! Yearender Survey. Check out what you thought was the best and worst of this year.



THE 2BU! YEARENDER READER SURVEY

The best and worst of 2003

The votes are in.

Here are this year's winners and losers, according to you

Welcome to a new year, and a new way to tell us what you think should be included in the list of the best and worst of 2003 in the categories of food, music, film, fashion, media, and lifestyle. We're excited to hear from you, and we're excited to hear from you.

Our list was compiled with more than a handful of which were designated due to our unique perspective on the world. We're excited to hear from you, and we're excited to hear from you.



BEST ALBUM PACKAGING: M. Gray's "Get Back or the Light" got the thumbs up



BEST BAND: It's a top of the line between the Backstreet Boys and the Backstreet Boys



BEST FITNESS: 2003 was the year to return to the gym. Readers voted the best fitness program of the year



BEST RADIO STATION: The Monster Radio RX 93.1 is a radio station



BEST SINGER: 2003 readers vote "Crazy in Love" with Beyoncé



BEST ACCESSORY: Readers say they loved their new jewelry. The best accessory was a necklace



BEST VIDEO: Beyoncé's "Crazy in Love" kept 2003 readers glued to their screens



BEST TREND: 2003 readers loved hoodies, skirts, and shoes. We're in



BEST TV SHOW: "Scrubs" "Scrubs" and "Scrubs" were the best TV shows of the year



BEST WRITER: Sophie Kinsella is the best writer of the year



BEST MAGAZINE: InStyle was the best magazine of the year



BEST CONCERT: The Backstreet Boys were the best concert of the year



BEST MOVIE: "Finding Nemo" was the best movie of the year



BEST ACTRESS: Kate Winslet was the best actress of the year



BEST ACTOR: He will live the dream. Kevin Spacey was voted actor of the year



WORST TV ACTRESS: Readers say they hated her



WORST BAND: The Backstreet Boys were the worst band of the year



WORST BAND: The Backstreet Boys were the worst band of the year



WORST FITNESS: Readers say they hated it



WORST TV HOST: Lucy Liu was the worst TV host of the year



WORST VIDEO: The Backstreet Boys were the worst video of the year



Illustration: J. R. RIVERA



Mark & Top
 26th Anniversary

She finds it hard to break up with her boyfriend

ERRR Mark and Top,
 I have a secret boyfriend who is 14 years older than me. Even my family doesn't know about him. Besides, I don't think they'd approve of him, but my feelings for him have faded. I want to break up with him but I can't do it because I'm afraid of losing my life.

GEMIE

"Think of it this way, okay? If you really really don't want to hurt him, then break up with him as soon as possible. Prolonging the inevitable is simply postponing something that you need to do soon. With faded feelings, it's bound to happen. By telling him along, you're just making the pain pay along for a ride that's not going to get him anywhere pleasant. Don't be a coward and run away from your obligation to tell him the truth. Keeping it away from him will just complicate and even worsen things when he eventually finds out, especially when he finds out about it through another person. It's also tipping out how you're going to go about it, because you simply have to, if you really don't want to double the pain he's going to suffer from this."

He's 14 years older—he should be mature and strong enough to take it.

MAKO

Carla, the guy is 14 years older than you. I'm sure he's mature enough to take rejection. Perhaps not take it sitting down—the single word said or you do something more threatening, but he will take it. The fact is, of all people, should know how to tell him it is to keep someone in a relationship against that person's will, and I know that your boyfriend would understand.

Be fair. Break up with him as soon, as civilly and as humanely as possible and then hope for his best reaction. Be a man! Be human. Otherwise, you're done.

SEPTIMIANO

If you're the author of markandtop@rediffmail.com



Celebrate the longest Christmas with the longest hours.

Date	Time	Day	1K One Price Rate	How much to expect
Dec. 1-10	10 am to 2 pm	Wed. to Fri.	P500	7 pm
Dec. 11-12	10 am to 10 pm	Sat. & Sun.	P500	7 pm
Dec. 13-14	12 am to 10 pm	Mon. to Wed.	P500	10 pm
Dec. 15-16	10 am to 10 pm	Thurs.	P500	7 pm

For old magic of the season.

